



Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2013

File No. 147

Senate Bill No. 327

Senate, March 26, 2013

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. DOYLE of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER LICENSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) The Commissioner of
2 Consumer Protection shall amend the regulations of Connecticut state
3 agencies to: (1) Allow professional engineers licensed pursuant to
4 chapter 391 of the general statutes to surrender their licenses to the
5 State Board of Examiners for Professional Engineers and Land
6 Surveyors during periods of time when such professional engineers
7 are not residing in and engaging in the profession of engineering in
8 this state, and (2) allow such engineers who have surrendered such
9 licenses to obtain new professional engineering licenses, without
10 payment of lapsed renewal period fees, at the time such engineers
11 return to and desire to practice the profession of engineering in this
12 state.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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GL *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Revenue Loss	Potential Minimal	Potential Minimal

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill results in potential foregone revenue to the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) as it provides that a professional engineer would not be required to pay the \$225 annual license renewal fees for the period of a hiatus to receive a new license. The DCP has never collected such revenue.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of applicants and the length of any hiatus.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 327*****AN ACT CONCERNING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER LICENSES.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill directs the Department of Consumer Protection to amend its regulations to allow a licensed professional engineer to take a hiatus from practicing in Connecticut by surrendering his or her license to the State Board of Examiners for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors at the beginning of the hiatus and receiving a new license at the end. The bill provides that the professional engineer would not be required to pay the \$225 annual license renewal fees for the period of the hiatus to receive a new license, as is currently required in some cases.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***Professional Engineers' License Renewal***

By law, a professional engineer is a person qualified by reason of his knowledge of mathematics, the physical sciences and the principles of engineering, acquired by professional education and practical experience, to engage in engineering practice. This includes providing or offering to provide clients with any professional service such as consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, design or responsible supervision of construction, in connection with any public or privately-owned structures, buildings, machines, equipment, processes, works or projects in which the public welfare or the safeguarding of life, public health or property is concerned or involved.

Under current license renewal regulations, a professional engineer

whose license lapses may renew up to five years after the lapse without reapplying for a license, but must pay the (1) \$225 renewal fee for each year the license was invalid and (2) renewal fee for the upcoming year. The applicant must also submit a notarized letter describing any engineering experience since applying for a license. Professional engineers who do not renew within five years after the license lapses must reapply for a license, fulfill all the current application requirements and pay all accompanying fees.

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/12/2013)